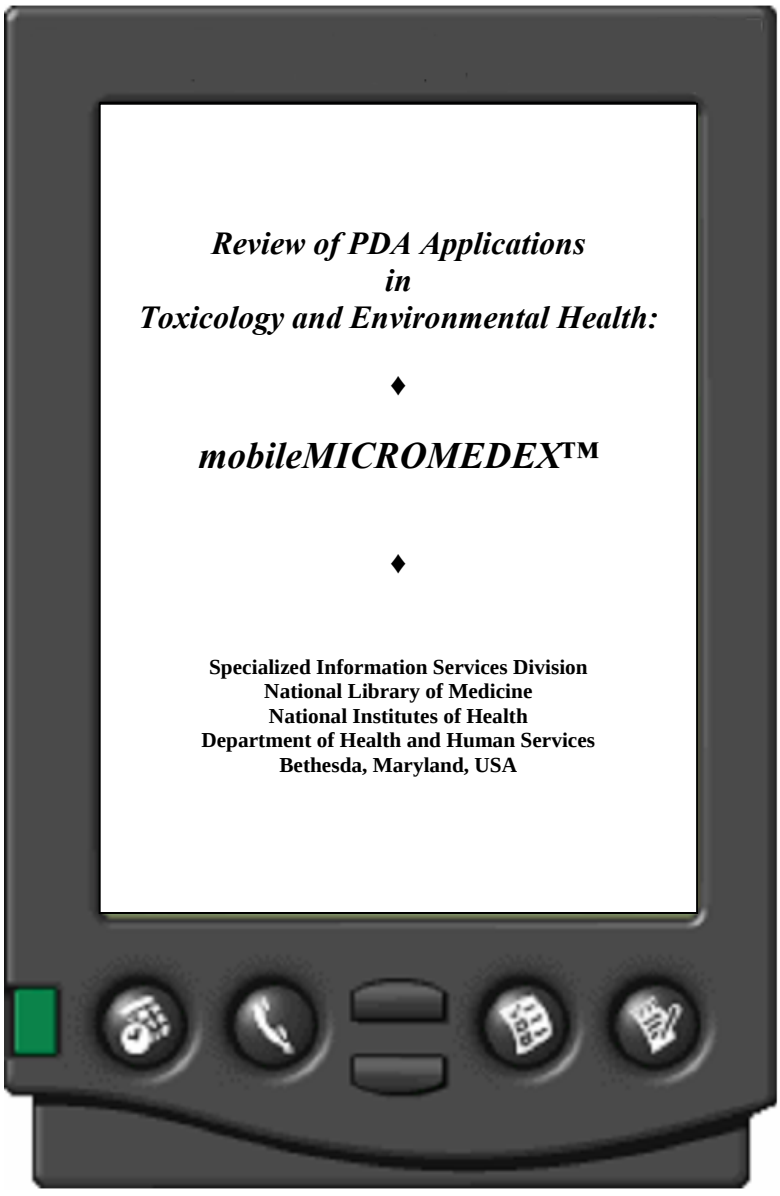
UNITED STATES
National Library of Medicine



Review of PDA Applications in Toxicology and Environmental Health:

♦

mobileMICROMEDEX™

♦

Specialized Information Services Division
National Library of Medicine
National Institutes of Health
Department of Health and Human Services
Bethesda, Maryland, USA

mobileMICROMEDEX™

(Reviewed 08/2002)

General Information

For general comments regarding the *Review of PDA Applications in Toxicology and Environmental Health*, please see the ***Overview***. Here we review the main technical and content features of the *mobileMICROMEDEX™ (2.2)* application based upon its full, downloadable version. *mobileMICROMEDEX™* is a Palm OS- as well as Pocket PC-compatible database, which makes drug, toxicology, alternative medicine, and acute care information available to healthcare professionals at the point of care. A drug interaction tool, which allows checking a patient's medications for potentially harmful interactions, can be added to the basic application. The *mobileMICROMEDEX™* database software is also available for memory expansion cards. Quarterly updates of the data and information are included with the product's purchase.

Intended Users

- Clinical Staff
- Physicians
- Pharmacists
- Nurses
- Medical Librarians

Authorship/Data Source

The *mobileMICROMEDEX™* database for hand-held devices is produced by Thomson MICROMEDEX, a part of the Thomson Corporation's Scientific & Healthcare Group and a provider of information products for professionals and consumers in the healthcare and industrial sectors. MICROMEDEX content is reviewed by an international editorial board of practicing professionals. The *mobileMICROMEDEX™* product was first made available to the healthcare community in 2001.

Contents

mobileMICROMEDEX™, the hand-held version of the *MICROMEDEX* database, makes available in portable format the same information resource that has been used by health-care professionals around the world for over 28 years.

◄ ***The mobileMICROMEDEX™ database provides a portable resource for those who require quick access to medical information at the point of care. As shown in the screen shot to the left, the database provides links to four main sections:***

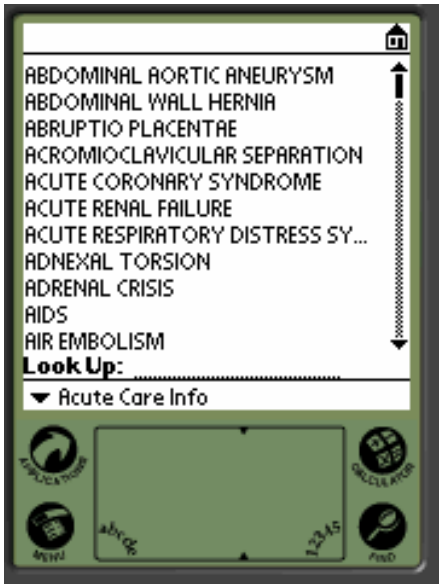
- **** Acute Care Information***
- **** Alternative Medicine Information***
- **** Drug Information***
- **** Toxicology Information***

Each of these four main sections is subdivided into subsections, as shown in the screen shots that follow.

► ***The Acute Care Information section provides concise information for over 320 common emergency conditions. For each condition, the section provides information on:***

- **** Treatment***
- **** Diagnosis***
- **** Key Points***

The initial portion of the list of medical emergency conditions covered by the section is displayed in the screen shot to the right.



◄ ***The Alternative Medicine Information section lists over 265 herbals and supplements, providing information on:***

- ***Class***
- ***Dosage, Adult / Pediatric***
- ***Administration***
- ***How Supplied***
- ***Indications***
- ***Contraindications***
- ***Adverse Effects***
- ***Drug Interactions***
- ***Pregnancy Category***
- ***Breast Feeding***

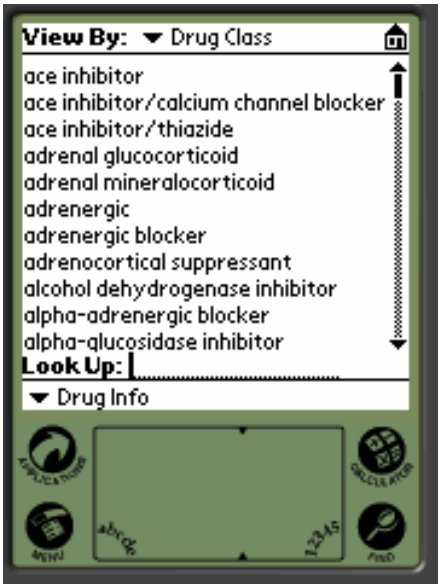
The screen shot to the left shows the list arranged by generic/trade name.

► ***The screen shot to the right shows the same Alternative Medicine Information section, in this case organized by therapeutic class. Each class links to the herbal(s) or supplement(s) belonging to that class.***

◄ ***The section on Drug Information has over 1,400 drug monographs covering:***

- ***Generic Names***
- ***Common Tradenames***
- ***Class***
- ***Dosage, Adult / Pediatric***
- ***Dose Adjustments***
- ***How Supplied***
- ***Indications***
- ***Contraindications***
- ***Adverse Effects***
- ***Drug Interactions***
- ***Pregnancy Category***
- ***Breast Feeding***

The screen shot to the left shows the drugs listed by generic/trade name.

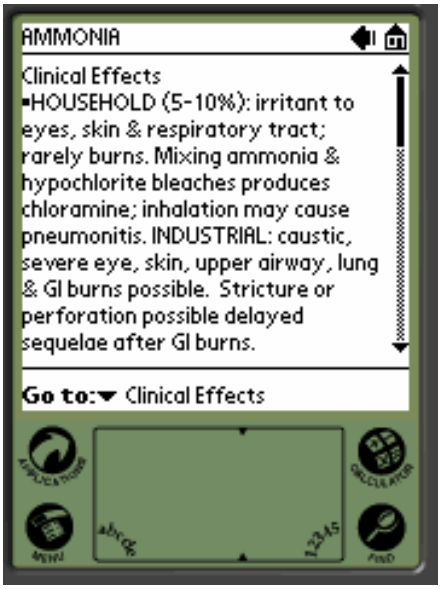


◄ ***The same Drug Information section, in this case organized by drug class, is shown in the screen shot to the left. Each class links to the substance(s) belonging to that class.***

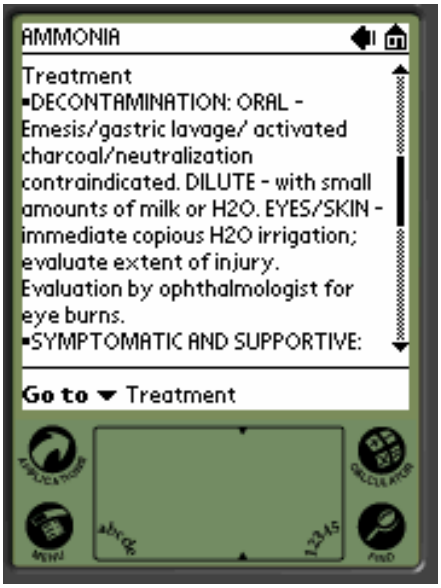
► ***The Toxicology Information section provides information on how to manage over 185 of the most common poisonings, including information on:***

- **** Clinical Effects***
- **** Treatment***
- **** Range of Toxicity***

The screen shot to the right shows part of the list of potentially toxic substances. Each substance name links to the information on that substance. One of the entries from the list is exemplified below.

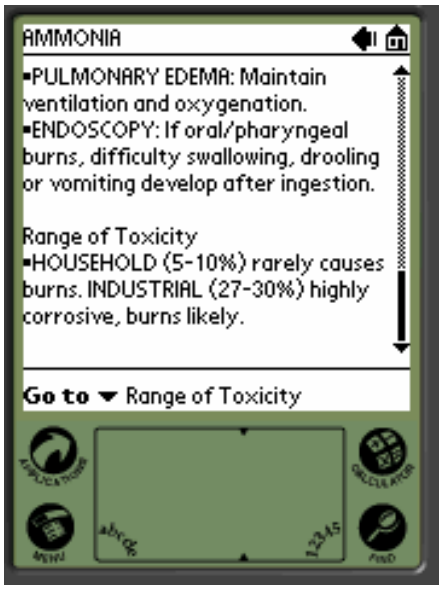


◄ ***The screen shot to the left shows the Clinical Effects information for the entry on AMMONIA. Note that both household and industrial exposures are covered.***



◄ ***The Treatment information portion for AMMONIA is shown in the screen shot to the left. Note that different treatment protocols are covered.***

► ***The screen shot to the right shows the Range of Toxicity information portion for AMMONIA. Again, both household and industrial exposures are addressed.***

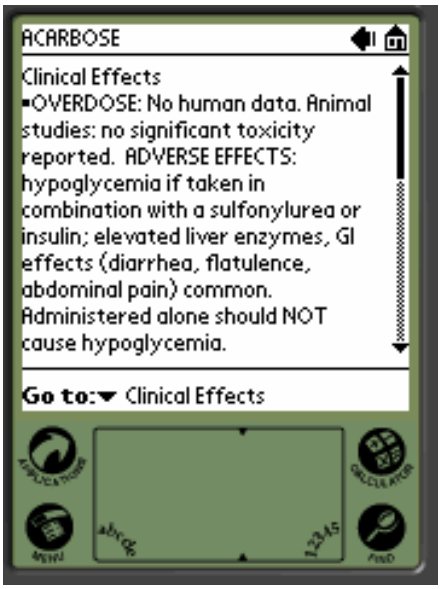


Navigation

This application functions in an offline mode and does not require any degree of mobile connectivity.

◄ ***The opening screen lists the four modules of the mobileMICROMEDEX™ database. In the lower part of the screen, the*** Preferences ***button allows the user to select the startup screen best suited to his/her needs and to choose to display the scroll bar on the left-hand rather than the right-hand side of the screen. The*** Data Manager ***button allows the user to access expiration date, version, and size information for each module. The user may also delete any of the four modules. As seen in previous screen shots, each module contains one or two scrollable lists.***

► ***As an example, in the Toxicology Information module of the database the user can search the list of potentially toxic substances for a particular substance by inputting its name after*** **Look Up**. ***Also, by clicking on the down arrow (▼) at the bottom of the screen, the user has the option of accessing any other module or returning Home.***



◄ ***Within a specific record (in this example, the ACARBOSE record in the Toxicology Information module), the user may choose to jump to other sections of the record (see screen shot below) by clicking on the down arrow (▼) next to*** **Go to**.

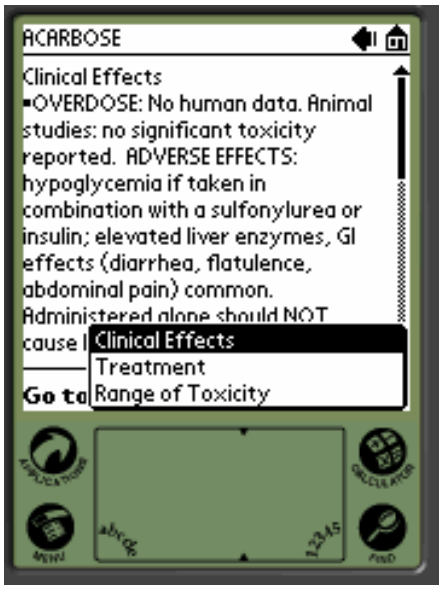
► ***The screen shot to the right exemplifies the three sections a user may jump to within each record in the Toxicology Information module:***

- ***Clinical Effects***
- ***Treatment***
- ***Range of Toxicity***

Navigation tools in the top portion of the screen include:

(return to previous screen)

(return to Home screen, where a different module may be chosen)



Requirements

- Palm OS 3.1
- 1.8 MB of free memory

Application Type/Price

- Commercial
- $74.95 (includes quarterly updates for 1 year)

Availability

The *mobileMICROMEDEX*™ application may be purchased from commercial PDA software distributors.

Useful Web Links

For information on Thomson MICROMEDEX, visit www.micromedex.com.

Review of PDA Applications in Toxicology and Environmental Health

Overview

Handheld computer devices known as Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) are increasingly being used in the fields of toxicology and environmental health. Moreover, software applications covering specialized subject matter in these fields are increasingly being made available to PDA users.

In an effort to provide information on the main technical and content features of selected applications, the National Library of Medicine's Division of Specialized Information Services (SIS) has undertaken an ongoing review of them. Typically, individual reports in the review series are based on free, downloadable demos.

Each report typically covers the following topics: General Information, Intended Users, Authorship/Data Source, Contents, Navigation, Requirements, Application Type/Price, Availability, Useful Web Links, and Updates.

♦

Note: The *Review of PDA Applications in Toxicology and Environmental Health* is not intended to be all comprehensive, but rather a review of selected applications. SIS staff welcomes any comments on completed reviews or suggestions for additional reviews of applications not currently included, as long as they fall within the scope of toxicology and environmental health. You may contact us via email at tehip@teh.nlm.nih.gov with any comments, questions, or suggestions.

It is not the intention of SIS staff to recommend, or not recommend, any particular PDA device(s) or software application(s), but rather to provide an objective and descriptive review of the main technical and content features of selected applications based on their downloadable demo versions.

<BACK>